

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

On page 1, please replace the paragraph beginning at line 7 with the following paragraph:

This is a continuation of U.S. patent application serial No. 09/324,986, filed June 2, 1999, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. patent application Serial No. 09/032,337, filed February 27, 1998, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. patent application Serial No. 08/609,583, filed March 1, 1996, now U.S. Patent No. 6,204,371, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. patent application Serial No. 08/487,748, filed June 7, 1995, now U.S. Patent No. 5,721,351, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. patent application Serial No. 08/398,633, filed March 3, 1995, now U.S. Patent No. 6,066,322, each of which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

REMARKS

The specification has been amended to correct the claim to priority recited in the specification as originally filed. Specifically, the specification has been amended to indicate that the instant application is a continuation of U.S. application Serial No. 09/324,986, filed June 2, 1999 and to update the status of the applications recited in the claim to priority. A marked up version of the paragraph in the specification which has been amended, with deletions and additions indicated by brackets and underlining, respectively, is attached hereto in Exhibit A. No new matter has been introduced by the above-made amendments.

Applicants respectfully request entry of the above-made amendments and remarks into the file history of the above-identified application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date December 4, 2001

Laura A. Coruzzi 30,742
Laura A. Coruzzi (Reg. No.)

PENNIE & EDMONDS LLP
1155 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10036-2711
(212) 790-9090

Enclosures

By: Jennifer J. Chheda
Reg. No. 46,617